

until the verdict was given. He communicated with Vizetelly several times on these matters, on one occasion sending a card on which, in spite of all the had rumours, he indicated his confidence in the result of the proceedings: "My dear friend," he said, "I will say nothing, and I beg you to say nothing in my name. One must wait firmly for victory." \*

On September 9, however, the unfortunate Dreyfus was once more found guilty of the crime he had never committed. Zola, still at Médan, was profoundly shocked and horrified by the verdict, and again he published a declaration, "Le Cinquième Acte,"<sup>2</sup> in which he expressed his fear that the truth might fall on France from Germany in a manner which might have the most terrible consequences.

The result of the trial certainly caused amazement all the world over. In Great Britain the indignation was extreme, and a proposal to boycott the Exhibition which was to be held in Paris in 1900 was agitated by several newspapers.

Vizetelly was appealed to by some who felt that Zola might be able to quiet the outcry, and an offer of two shillings a word for an article which might run to ten thousand words, was made to him by the editor of a London newspaper.

But even this proposal was declined by Zola, who wrote to Vizetelly on September 14:

My dear *Confrère* and Friend, — I do not take payment in France for my articles on the Dreyfus case, and still less would I

accept money from a foreign newspaper.  
As for intervening between France and the world, I will not and cannot do so, for all sorts of reasons. Besides, in spite of the gravity of the symptoms, I do not believe that our Exhibition is seriously threatened. I still wish to believe that France will do what may be necessary to be in a posi-

<sup>1</sup> *A. foe-simile* of the card in question accompanies the present volume.

<sup>3</sup> See «' La Yerit6 en Marehe," p. 147 *et seq.*